

SEASONABLE And SOBER
A D V I C E
TO THE
Respective COUNTIES and CORPORATIONS in whose Good
or Bad Choice of Members to serve in this next ensuing
P A R L A M E N T

(In this present juncture of Time)

Consisteth the probable **WEALE** or **WOE** of these Three Nations, and the
S A F E T Y or **H A Z A R D** of our Dear-bought **L I B E R T I E S** and Reformation begun.

*By severall Ministers of the Gospell, both in Citty and Countrey, lovers of Reformation, and
studious of the Peace and prosperity of these Nations.*

*Pray for the Peace of Ierusalem, they shall prosper that Love Thee.
The Lord blesse thee O Habitation of Justice, and Mountain of Holinesse.*



It cannot lie unobserved to any *pious* or *prudent* Heart with what an out-stretched hand (by *signes & wonders*, the Lord hath brought his people of these Nations, out of that darknesse in their Minds, and *bondage* in their Consciences that hath been only felt in former times, and whereinto we cannot but fear our fatall return, should we make us *Captaines* to lead us back to Egypt.

Neither is it lesse obvious how oft we have seemed near a Canaan of Rest and *Settlement* for our selves and Gods Ark in the midst of us, and yet as often have the *passions* and private *interests* of some, and the sins of us *All*, brought us back again into the *Wildernesse*. *Parlaments* have been in travail but have not brought forth any salvation; God hath looked for Grapes from us, and behold wild Grapes; And we have looked for healing, but behold a Cry!

Howbeit although we have been *emptied* from Vessels to Vessels, we are not as yet *spilt* upon the ground; This is the Lords doing and it is deservable marvellous in our eyes. The power, the plenty, the purity of the Gospel of Salvation which we yet enjoy, is more then most others *have*; and our Peace (in this juncture of time) more then what most of our selves could have.

The Civil Government is peacefully devolved into that *Hand* (wherewith the *Heart* of these Nations, by the many affectionate Addressees, both of Cities, Counties and Townes-Corporate, appears to be combined) which seemeth every day more strengthened for the holding of that *interest* (which must be the Pillar of our Civil *Weale*) the *interest* of our Lord *Iesus Christ*.

And now that a generall Addresse is to be publicly made throughout these three Nations to the Throne of grace for a blessing upon the appointed *Parlament*; may it be as much our **CARE** as it is our **CONCERNMENT** (as near as we can) to choose whom the Lord hath *chosen*, and to send thither by our *Votes* such onely as we can most comfortably follow with our *Hopes* and *Prayers*. That is to say, Men of *Wisedome* and *Knowledge* in the Great Things both of *true Religion* and *righteous Government*, understanding the *Times*, and what *Israell* ought to doe.

Men (like *Moses*) of a *zealous*, yet a peaceable and *healing* spirit, (willing to stand in our Breaches, and to endeavour the cementing our differences) that our wound (if the Lord please) may be bound up and bleed no longer.

Men *Free* and willing to reform all grievances in the Administration of Law, till Righteousness be as a River amongst us, the streams whereof may make glad the Citie of our God.

May our Elections have respect to these few qualifications, and what ever else may truly commend men before the Lord, may it recommend them to our choice for that high trust wherein the great Name of our God, and what ever is deare to all that love and feare him, is so much interested. And may it be laid seriously to heart what a dreadfull Account wee shall give to God, (THOSE especially who not onely as being members of **COUNTIES** have power in choosing *Knights* in common with others, BUT also as being Members of **CORPORATIONS** of choosing for themselves *Burgesses* who are not the least considerable number in *Parlament*) If through either a supine *Carelesnesse* or other *Carnall* respects, we should betray into *unfaithfull hands* those great *Talents* wherewith the Lord hath graciously entrusted us, not onely for our selves, but for *succeeding generations*.

'Tis easily foreseen how slender an entertainment such a short *Paper-messenger* may find with many, but the *Cafe* it selfe speaketh though we should hold our peace. And assuredly should we herein prove *unfaithfull*, Salvation would come some other way (for if we *slumber*, yet God will watch over his own Cause) but we and our Families shall be troden under foot as unfavoury salt.

And who knowes but he who chooseth the *weake* things of this world, and the things that are *despised*, may direct so plain a word to the awakening and provoking of some, to the carefull discharge of so great a Duty, that the Children that shall be borne, may call us blessed.

P S A L. 137. 5. 6.

If I forget thee Oh Ierusalem, then let my right hand forget her cunning.

If I doe not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I preferre not Ierusalem above my chiefe Joy.

L O N D O N,
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